

Clearly, we need more resources and innovative, research-based ways to reach more people.

The Strengthening Research in Adult Education Act will support the key reforms to adult education in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act by ensuring that adult education is included in our national education research priorities. Specifically, the Strengthening Research in Adult Education Act will amend the Education Sciences Reform Act to require the Institute for Education Sciences and the National Center for Education Statistics to collect data and carry out research on: successful state and local adult education and literacy activities, the characteristics and academic achievement of adult learners, and access to and opportunity for adult education in communities across the country. It will also ensure that the Institute of Education Sciences draws on the expertise of adult educators when developing policies and priorities. Finally, the legislation would require that at least one research center would focus on adult education.

These straightforward amendments to the Education Sciences Reform Act will go a long way to strengthening the research base that will support the improvement of adult education across the country. I was pleased to work with the adult education community, and particularly, the National Council of State Directors of Adult Education in developing this legislation. I urge my colleagues to support the Strengthening Research in Adult Education Act and to work with me to ensure that its provisions are included in the reauthorization of the Education Sciences Reform Act.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 544—DESIGNATING THE YEAR OF 2014 AS THE “INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF FAMILY FARMING”

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. DONNELLY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 544

Whereas United Nations Resolution A/Res/66/222, adopted by the General Assembly on December 22, 2011, designates the year 2014 as the “International Year of Family Farming”;

Whereas the International Year of Family Farming recognizes the important contribution of family farming in food security and eradicating poverty around the world;

Whereas in the United States, family farms constitute 96 percent of all farms;

Whereas the agriculture sector contributes more than \$130,000,000,000 to the United States economy, employs approximately 14 percent of the total workforce in the United States, and accounts for nearly 5 percent of the United States gross domestic product;

Whereas 45 percent of individuals around the world make a living directly by farming;

Whereas family farming is the predominant form of agriculture in both developing and developed countries;

Whereas family farming serves as a means of organizing agricultural, forestry, fishery, pastoral, and aquaculture production;

Whereas family farming plays important socioeconomic, environmental, and cultural roles;

Whereas family farmers grow high-quality food, are active participants in civil society, and are stewards of the land;

Whereas 75 percent of the poorest individuals around the world live in rural areas;

Whereas family farms are linked to most areas of rural development and have invested significantly in local communities;

Whereas the majority of farmers around the world are women who produce up to 80 percent of food around the world; and

Whereas 870,000,000 individuals are suffering from chronic undernourishment and a disproportionate number of such individuals are farmers: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the year 2014 as the “International Year of Family Farming”;

(2) congratulates family farmers in the United States and around the world;

(3) recognizes the vital role family farms play in the economic and social well-being of the United States and the world;

(4) recognizes the importance of raising the profile of family farming by focusing the attention of individuals around the world on the significant role of family farming in alleviating hunger and poverty, providing food security and nutrition, improving livelihoods, managing natural resources, protecting the environment, and achieving sustainable development in rural areas;

(5) encourages countries, national organizations, and States to undertake activities to support the International Year of Family Farming;

(6) recognizes the role and importance of women in family farming;

(7) emphasizes the positive impact of family farms and developing new programs for domestic and international family agricultural development; and

(8) advocates for the protection of the viability of family farms, which serve as the foundation of rural society and social stability.

SENATE RESOLUTION 545—RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH AND CELEBRATING THE HERITAGE AND CULTURE OF LATINOS IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE IMMENSE CONTRIBUTIONS OF LATINOS TO THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. CASEY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON, Mr. REED, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. WARNER, and Ms. WARREN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 545

Whereas from September 15, 2014 through October 15, 2014, the United States celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month;

Whereas the Census Bureau estimates the Hispanic population in the United States at

over 54,000,000 people, making Hispanic Americans 17 percent of the population of the United States and the largest racial or ethnic minority group in the United States;

Whereas Hispanic Americans are also the largest racial or ethnic minority group in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and 22 individual States: Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming;

Whereas in 2013, there were 1,000,000 or more Latino residents in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and each of the following 8 States: Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, New Jersey, New York, and Texas;

Whereas Latinos grew the United States population by 1,100,000 between July 1, 2012 and July 1, 2013, accounting for nearly half of all population growth during this period;

Whereas the Latino population in the United States is projected to grow to 128,800,000 by 2060, at which point the Latino population will comprise 31 percent of the total United States population;

Whereas the Latino population in the United States is currently the second-largest worldwide, exceeding the size of the Latino population in every country except Mexico;

Whereas there were 11,900,000 Latino family households in the United States in 2013, and Latino children under the age of 18 represent approximately 1/3 of the total Latino population in the United States;

Whereas 1 in 4 public school students in the United States is Latino, and the total number of school-age Latino children in the United States is expected to reach 28,000,000 by 2050;

Whereas 18 percent of all college students between the ages of 18 and 24 years old are Latino, making Latinos the largest racial or ethnic minority group on college campuses in the United States, including both 2-year community colleges and 4-year colleges and universities;

Whereas a record 11,200,000 Latinos voted in the 2012 presidential election, representing a record 8.4 percent of the electorate in the United States;

Whereas an estimated 23,500,000 Latinos are eligible to vote in the 2014 midterm elections, and the number of eligible Latino voters is expected to rise to 40,000,000 by 2030;

Whereas more than 2,000 Latino citizens turn 18 and become eligible to vote every day, and an average of 900,000 Latino citizens will turn 18 and become eligible to vote every year between 2014 and 2028;

Whereas the annual purchasing power of Hispanic Americans is an estimated \$1,200,000,000,000 and is expected to grow to \$1,500,000,000,000 by 2015;

Whereas there are more than 3,200,000 Hispanic-owned firms in the United States, supporting millions of employees nationwide and contributing more than \$468,000,000,000 in revenue to the economy of the United States;

Whereas Hispanic-owned businesses represent the fastest-growing segment of small businesses in the United States, with Latino entrepreneurs starting businesses at more than twice the national rate;

Whereas as of August 2014, more than 25,000,000 Latino workers represented 16.3 percent of the total civilian labor force in the United States, and the share of Latino labor force participation is expected to grow to 19.1 percent by 2022;

Whereas Latinos have the highest labor force participation rate of any racial or ethnic group at 66 percent, compared to 62.8 percent overall;